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TAGS: KNNP PARM PREL AORC IR CI SUBJECT: CHILE: CONCERNED ABOUT IRAN'S NUCLEAR AMBITIONS

REF: STATE 06236

Classified By: Economic-Political Counselor Andrew Chritton. Reasons: 1.4(b) and (d).

- 11. (C) Poloff delivered reftel talking points to Foreign Ministry Special Policies Counselor Jaime Contreras, and MFA/North American Affairs Desk Officer Beatriz de la Fuente on January 18. Contreras told Poloff the following day that Chile was concerned about Iran's nuclear ambitions, explaining that "clearly, Iran cannot be allowed to possess nuclear weapons." He added that the Iranian president's rhetoric about Israel had created serious concerns about Iran's future intentions.
- 12. (C) Contreras said Chile's delegation to the United Nations had the policy lead on the issue, and encouraged the USG to coordinate directly with Chilean Deputy PermRep Alfredo Labbe. However, Contreras said he believed Chile would support, or at least abstain on, any formal action by the UN to encourage Iran to change course. KELLY